High Mountain Dams in Upalco Unit,
Superior Lake Dam
Ashley National Forest
12.4 miles northwest of Swift Creek Campground
Mountain Home Vicinity
Duchesne County
Utah

HAER No. UT-42-L

HAER
UTAH,
7-MOHO.V,
1-L-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80537

HAER
UTAH,
7-MOHO.V,
1-L-

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

High Mountain Dams in Upalco Unit, Superior Lake Dam

HAER No. UT-42-L

Location:	12.4 miles northwest of Swift Creek Campground, Ashley National Forest Mountain Home vicinity, Duchesne County, Utah UTM: 12.544540.4508540 Quad: Garfield Basin
Date of Construction:	1930
Builder/Designer:	Farmers Irrigation Company
Present Owner:	Moon Lake Water Users Association, Roosevelt, Utah 84066
Original Use:	Dam
Present Use:	Dam
Significance:	Superior Lake is one of several natural high mountain lakes in the Swift Creek and Yellowstone River drainages dammed by the Farmers Irrigation Company in the 1920s and 1930s to store water for irrigation. The dam is a representative example of small-scale earth-fill construction in the Upalco Unit of the Central Utah Project.
Inventoried by:	Clayton Fraser and James Jurale Fraserdesign Loveland, Colorado October 21, 1985

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

On February 2, 1927, special use permits were issued by the National Forest Service to the Farmers Irrigation Company for the purpose of water storage on Superior and Five Point lakes, two high mountain lakes in the Yellowstone River drainage. Located at an elevation of 11,160 feet, Superior was the highest of the two. It was composed of two shallow bodies of water in its naturaL state, with an outlet stream flowing east. the dam that the irrigation company built in 1930 along the southern edge effectively doubled the lake's surface area and diverted its outlet flow south into the Five Point Lake. The dam is a small-scale earth-fill structure with sloped faces covered by stone riprap. In 1977, the Moon Lake Water Users Association rehabilitated the original cribbed log support structure for riprap. In 1977, the Moon Lake Water Users Association rehabilitated the original cribbed log support structure for the outlet gate. The dam and gate remain. It is proposed to breach the dam by excavating a spillway through it, remove the timber crib, and lock the outlet pipe to lower the water to within five feet of its natural scalc.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

Dam length:	235 feet
Dam height:	17 feet
Dam width:	5 feet
Construct:	Earth fill dam with stone riprap facing
Lake size:	42.4 acres; 359 acre-foot maximum capacity; 16 vertical foot maximum drawdown
Outlet:	Gated steel pipe

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

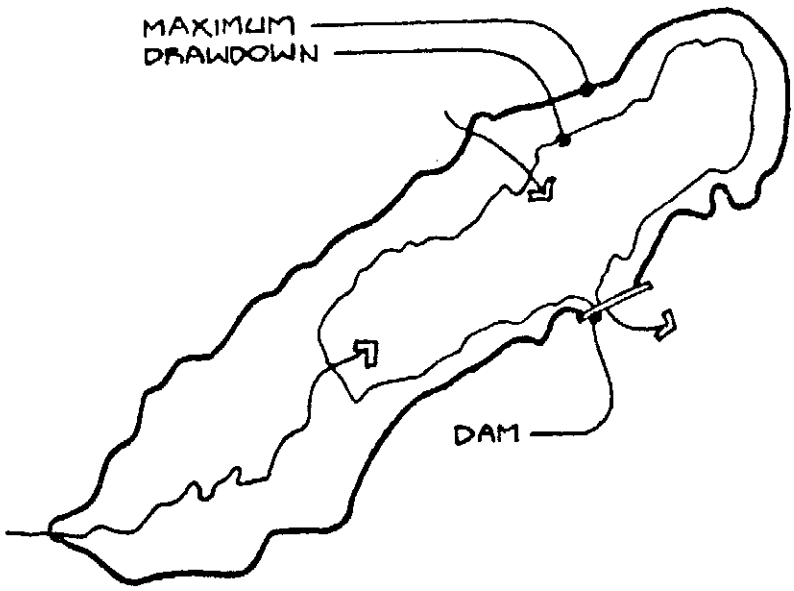
"Preliminary Engineering Report: Stabilization of High Mountain Lakes, Upalco Unit, National Forest Service Report, 1970, page 40.

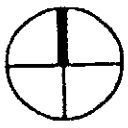
William F. Gettleman, "Report on thc Lakes and Reservoir of the Headwaters of the Uintah, Whiterocks and Lakefork Rivers, Uintah Project, Utah: Feb. 1932," page 19.

Superior Lake Reservoir File, Roosevelt District Rangcr Office, Ashley National Forest, Roosevelt, Utah

Ficld inspection by Robert Righter, July 28, 1985.

For additional information, see Irrigation Canals in the Uinta Basin, HAER No. UT-30.


MAXIMUM
DRAWDOWN
DAM


SCALE: 1" = 1000'